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(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

published in accordance with Art. 158(3) EPC

(31) Application number: 86906442.8

(51) Int. Cl. 2: G 11 B 20/10

(22) Date of filing: 27.10.86

Data of the international application taken as a basis:

(86) International application number:
PCT/JP86/00539

(87) International publication number:
WO87/02818 (07.05.87 - 87/10)

(30) Priority: 28.10.85 JP 241060/85

(43) Date of publication of application:
04.11.87 Bulletin 87/45

(64) Designated Contracting States:
DE GB

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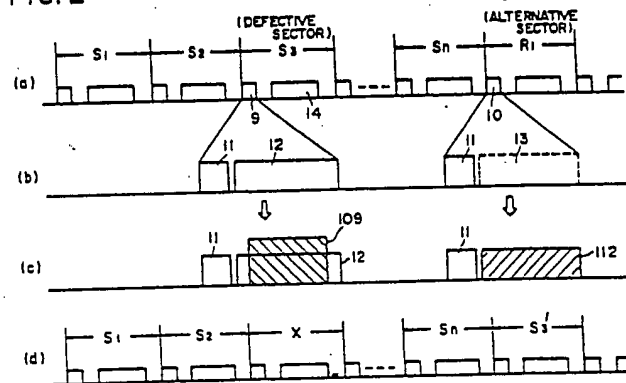
(54) DATA RECORDING/REGENERATING DEVICE.

(57) A data recording/regenerating device which records data onto, or regenerates data from, a disc-shaped data recording medium having a plurality of sectors. The invention employs a data recording medium which has, in the same track, both ordinary sectors (S1, ..., Sn) in which addresses are format-recorded in address portions (12) of sector discrimination codes (9), and a substitute sector R1 in which no address is recorded. When a defective sector S3 is detected, a delete signal (109) is recorded on the address portion (12) of the defective sector S3, so that the address of the defective sector S3 cannot be regenerated. At the same time, the address of the defective sector is recorded onto the address portion (13) of an unemployed substitute sector R1 on the same track, and then the data to be recorded onto the defective sector S3 is recorded onto the substitute sector R1. Owing to such a sector substitute operation, the substitute sector having the

same address and data as those of the defective sector is formed on the same track as that of the defective sector. Therefore, there is provided a data recording/regenerating device which makes possible the access to the substitute sector when the data is to be regenerated, without requiring any retrieval operation.

EP 0 243 503 A1

FIG. 2



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SPECIFICATION

TITLE MODIFIED

see front page

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

INFORMATION RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS
WITH MANAGEMENT OF DEFECTIVE SECTOR

1 TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to an information
recording and reproducing apparatus for recording and
reproducing information on and from a disk type informa-
5 tion recording medium having a plurality of sectors.

BACKGROUND ART

With respect to information recording and
reproducing systems for recording and reproducing informa-
tion on and from a disk type information recording medium
10 for each of sectors thereof, for example, in U.S. Patent
No. 4,545,044, there is, disclosed an information recording
and reproducing system which uses an optical disk.

The optical disk is usually provided with a
guide track which is detectable optically in order to form
15 tracks with a higher density, and by irradiating a
recording layer formed on the guide track with a laser
light converged to about 1 μ m, a hole is formed or reflecti-
vity is changed to effect the recording of the information.

Since the recorded dot and the track pitch are
20 about 1 μ m, various defects are caused in a manufacturing
process of the optical disk (formation of a guide track,

1 manufacturing of a replica disk, evaporation of a recording
material, formation of a protective film, and the like), or
depending on an environment in which the disk is used.
Due to such defects of the medium, sometimes a defective
5 sector is detected in which a reproduction error occurs in
an address or data. Further, in an information recording
and reproducing system wherein rewriting is impossible
due to the properties of a recording material as is the
case in a write-once type optical disk, if the recording
10 operation is interrupted during data recording, for example,
due to a drive error, it results in the recording of
incomplete data in a sector, and it is regarded as a
defective sector in file management.

A defective sector identification method in a
15 pair art information recording and reproducing system is
disclosed, for example, in Japanese Patent Application
No. 60-49035 (1985). Further, a method for using an alter-
native sector for a defective sector is disclosed, for
example, in Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication
20 No. 60-75931 (1985). The operation for using alternative
sector for a defective sector in the information recording
and reproducing system will be described with reference to
Fig. 5. For example, it is supposed that defective
sectors X1 and X2 exist among sectors S1 to S9 on a track
25 T from which data is intended to be reproduced, and that
it is recorded in a register Rg beforehand that alter-
native sectors are a sector S1' and a sector S2' on a
track T'. First, when the reproduction of the data is

1 started with the sector S1, the defective sector X1 located
next to the sector S2 is skipped and the sector S4 is
accessed. Further, the defective sector X2 located next
to the sector S5 is skipped, and this sector S6 and the
5 sectors following thereto are accessed. Next, the track
T' is sought to successively reproduce from the sectors
S1' and S2', and the reproduced data is sent to an area
in a main memory to which otherwise reproduced data from
the defective sectors X1 and X2 would be sent originally.

10 However, in the aforementioned system for using
an alternative sector, it is necessary to provide within
the system a register and a buffer to administer a cor-
respondence table indicating a correspondence between
a defective sector and an alternative sector, and to
15 provide a table recording area in the information record-
ing area every time a new defective sector is detected.
Thus, overhead is increased both in hardware and software.
Moreover, in the operation of replacing the defective
sector with an alternative sector, a seek operation
20 is required to access the alternative sector existing
on a specific track, and the data processing speed is
decreased.

DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION

An information recording and reproducing
25 apparatus according to the present invention uses a
disk type information recording and reproducing medium
including within a same track a normal sector having an

1 address formatted on an address area in a sector ID field,
the address being capable of detecting an error, and
including an alternative sector having no address formatted,
and further, the apparatus is provided with address deleting
5 means for disabling an address in a defective sector to
be reproduced, and address recording means for recording
an address in an address area in the alternative sector.
In this apparatus, when the defective sector is detected,
a delete signal is recorded on the address area of the
10 defective sector thereby to disable the address in the
defective sector to be reproduced, next, an address which
is the same as the defective sector is recorded in an
address area in an unused alternative sector on the same
track as the defective sector, and further, information
15 to be recorded on the defective sector is recorded on the
alternative sector. In the present invention, owing to
such an operation for using the alternative sector, the
alternative sector having the same address and data is
formed on the same track as the defective sector, and thus,
20 an information recording and reproducing apparatus is
provided in which a high speed operation for using an
alternative sector is made possible without requiring
the use of a correspondence table between the defective
sector and the alternative sector.

25 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of an embodiment of
an information recording and reproducing apparatus according

1 to the present invention, Fig. 2 is an operation outline
explaining diagram for explaining an operation for using
an alternative sector during data recording, Fig. 3 is a
flowchart for explaining a data recording operation,
5 Fig. 4 is a block diagram of address deleting means and
address recording means which are actuated by using a
timer, and Fig. 5 is an operation outline explaining
diagram for explaining a prior art operation for using
an alternative sector.

10 BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of an information
recording and reproducing apparatus in an embodiment of
the present invention. In Fig. 1, reference numeral 1
designates a main control circuit which controls the
15 whole apparatus by receiving a device command from a
host system (not shown). Reference numeral 2 designates
a target sector detecting circuit which performs, after
reading ID information such as a track address, a sector
address, a CRCC code (cyclic redundancy check code) for
20 error checking, etc., from a reproducing signal 101
delivered from a drive unit 3 and after checking an error
with respect to the CRCC, a coincidence detection with a
target sector address 100 set by the main control circuit
1. Reference numeral 5 designates a sector buffer for
25 temporarily storing recording information 104 to be
recorded on a target sector and reproduced information
14 reproduced from the target sector. Reference numeral 4

1 designates an information recording circuit which performs
digital modulation of (2, 7) RLLC (run length limited
code), etc., after coding the recording information 104
by adding thereto an error detection and correction
5 code such as a reed solomon code, and delivers a produced
recording signal 105 to a laser driving circuit (not
shown) within the drive unit 3. Reference numeral 8
designates an information reproducing circuit which
takes the reproducing signal 101 delivered from the
10 drive unit 3 into a shift register, and produces the
reproduced information 114 after demodulating an output
of the shift register by converting in a combining circuit
and after decoding the demodulated output. Reference
numeral 6 designates an address deleting circuit which
15 supplies a delete signal 109 to the drive unit 3, and
disables an address from a defective sector to be
reproduced by recording the delete signal 109 on an
address area in the defective sector by using the laser
driving circuit within the drive unit 3. Reference
20 numeral 7 designates an address recording circuit which
performs digital modulation after adding the CRCC code
for error checking to alternative address information
111, delivers the produced alternative address signal 112
to the drive unit 3, and records on the address area of
25 the alternative sector by using the laser driving circuit
within the drive unit 3. In this respect, a method for
modulating and demodulating the (2, 7) RLLC is disclosed
in U.S. Patent No. 4,115,768 issued to Eggenber et al.

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1 The operation of the information recording
and reproducing apparatus in the embodiment arranged as
described in the foregoing will be described with reference
to an operation outline explaining diagram in Fig. 2 and
5 a flowchart in Fig. 3. In this embodiment, an information
recording medium wherein the rewriting is impossible
as in a write-once type optical disk is used, and a seek
operation is omitted in order to simplify the explanation.
Further, it is supposed that a head has already been
10 existing on a target track. On the target track, as
shown in Fig. 2, at (a), there are existing normal
sectors S1 to Sn and a first alternative sector R1. In
a sector ID field 9 in each of the normal sectors, and
in a sector ID field 10 in the alternative sector, similarly
15 in both cases as shown in Fig. 2, at (b), there are recorded
with sector marks 11 in a format at the beginning of each
of the sector ID fields. Further, although an address
having an error detecting capability is recorded in a
format on an address area 12 in each of the normal sectors,
20 no recording is made on an address area 13 in the alter-
native sector. The operation described in the flowchart
in Fig. 3 indicates that when a drive error occurs during
data recording operation on a data field 14 in the normal
sector S3, the data recording operation will be interrupted
25 and incomplete data will be recorded in the normal sector
S3. Since, rewriting in the normal sector S3 is impos-
sible, the normal sector S3 is regarded as a defective
sector, and the information which is to be recorded

1 at this time is recorded alternatively on the unused
alternative sector R1.

(A) The main control circuit 1 delivers and sets
the target sector address 100 to the target sector detect-
5 ing circuit 2, and at the same time, delivers the write
enable signal 102 to the information recording circuit 4.

(B) The target sector detecting circuit 2 detects
address information contained in the reproducing signal
101, and performs coincidence detection with the target
10 sector address 100 set by the main control circuit 1.

(C) When the target sector S3 is detected in the
operation in (B), the target sector detecting circuit 2
delivers the detection signal 103 to the information
recording circuit 4. The information recording circuit 4
15 produces the recording signal 105 from the recording
information 104 which has been supplied from the host
system and stored temporarily in the sector buffer 5, and
starts recording of data by delivering the produced
recording signal 105 to the drive unit 3.

20 (D) During the data recording operation, the drive
unit 3 performs detection of a drive error.

(E) The recording operation of data is finished by
completing the sending of the recording signal 105 to the
target sector S3 by the information recording circuit 4.

25 (F) When the drive error is detected in the operation
in (D), the main control circuit 1 detects as an inter-
rupt signal the drive error signal 106 delivered from the
drive unit 3, and stops sending of the write enable signal

1 102. As a result, the information recording circuit 4 stops sending of the recording signal 105, and the data recording operation is interrupted.

(G) When the data recording operation is interrupted, since the information recording medium is unable to be rewritten, the normal sector S3 in which incomplete data has been recorded is regarded as a defective sector. The main control circuit 1, in order to detect a normal sector S2 which is located precedent to the defective sector S3, sends and sets an address of the normal sector S2 as the target sector address 100 to the target sector detecting circuit 2. When the target sector detecting circuit 2 detects the normal sector S2 set by the main control circuit 1, delivers the detection signal 103 to the main control circuit 1, and the main control circuit 1 delivers a delete enable signal 107 to the address delete circuit 6. When the drive unit 3 delivers a sector mark signal 108 after detecting the sector mark of the defective sector S3, the address delete circuit 6 is actuated and delivers the delete signal 109. The drive unit 3 overwrites the delete signal 109 on the address area 13 in the defective sector S3 as shown in Fig. 2; at (C) thereby to make the address of the defective sector S3 unable to be reproduced.

25 Further, in the operation in (B), when the target sector can not be detected within a maximum rotational latency (that is, when there is a defect in the address area in the target sector, etc.), the normal sector S3 is

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1 regarded as a defective sector having a defect in the
address area. In order to prevent erroneous detection of
the target sector thereafter due to unsatisfactory address
reproduction, in accordance with a procedure similar to
5 that described above, the delete signal 109 is overwritten
on the address area 13 in the defective sector S3 thereby
to make the address of the defective sector S3 completely
unable to be reproduced.

(H) The main control circuit 1, in order to detect
10 a normal sector Sn located precedent to the alternative
sector R1, sends and sets the address of the normal
sector Sn to the target sector detecting circuit 2 as the
target sector address 100. When the target sector detecting
circuit 2 detects the normal sector Sn set by the main
15 control circuit 1, the target sector detecting circuit 2
delivers the detection signal 103 to the main control
circuit 1, and the main control circuit 1 delivers to
the address recording circuit 7 the address write enable
signal 110 and the alternative address information 111
20 containing the address of the defective sector S3.
Then, when the drive unit 3 detects the sector mark of
the alternative sector R1 and sends the sector mark signal
108, the address recording circuit 7 is actuated, and the
address recording circuit 7 produces the alternative
25 address signal 112 from the alternative address information
111 and delivers the alternative address signal 112 to
the drive unit 3. The drive unit 3 records the alter-
native address signal 112 on the address area 13 in the

1 alternative sector R1 as shown in Fig. 2, at (C), and
by this recording, the same address as the defective
sector S3 is recorded on the address area 13 in the
alternative sector R1 which has been in an unrecorded
5 condition.

By the procedure as described above, the disposition of the sectors on the target track is changed as shown in Fig. 2, at (D), and because of the fact that the address of the normal sector S3 is disabled to be
10 reproduced, the normal sector S3 is identified as a defective sector X and also, the alternative sector R1 is identified as an alternative sector S3' which has the same address as the normal sector S3. Thus, the information which is to be recorded on the normal sector S3
15 is recorded alternatively on the alternative sector S3', and the operation for the alternative sector is completed.

Further, in the recording of the delete signal 109 in the aforementioned procedure (G), when the address area of the information recording medium is formed with
20 an irregular surface structure of the disk substrate as is the case in the write-once type optical disk, or when the rewriting of address information is impossible due to the properties of the recording material, it is possible to disable the address of the defective sector
25 to be reproduced by using as the delete signal 109, for example, a signal having a pulse width wider than the signal contained in the signal 112 of the alternative address, and by overwriting the signal of the wider pulse

1 width on the address area of the defective sector thereby
to cause the CRCC error to be generated at the time of
reproducing the address. Further, when the information
recording medium is used in which the rewriting of the
5 address information is possible, it is possible to disable
the address of the defective sector to be reproduced,
for example, by using as the delete signal 109 a D.C.
signal thereby to erase at least a portion of the address
area.

10 Next, in this embodiment, the reproducing
operation of information recorded alternatively on the
alternative sector S3' will be described with reference
to the block diagram in Fig. 1.

First, the main control circuit 1 delivers and
15 sets as the target address 100 the address of the normal
sector S3 to the target sector detecting circuit 2, and
at the same time, delivers the read enable signal 113
to the information reproducing circuit 8. The target
sector detecting circuit 2 detects address information
20 contained in the reproducing signal 101 and performs
coincidence detection with the target sector address 100.
When the target sector detecting circuit 2 detects,
in place of the defective sector S3 whose address has been
disabled to be reproduced, the alternative sector S3'
25 having the same address recorded therein, the target
sector detecting circuit 2 delivers the detection signal
103 to the information reproducing circuit 8. The
information reproducing circuit 8. The information

1 reproducing circuit 8 produces the reproduced information
114 from the reproducing signal 101 sent from the drive
unit 3, and delivers to the sector buffer 5. When the
information reproducing circuit 8 finishes the delivery
5 of the reproduced information 114, the reproducing
operation is completed when the reproduced information
114 which is stored temporarily in the sector buffer 5 is
sent out to the host system.

In the above embodiment, although one alternative
10 sector exists on the target track, the number of the
alternative sectors is not limited to this. Further, when
a plurality of alternative sectors exist on the same
track, the foregoing procedure for alternative sector can
be executed also for the alternative sector which is
15 regarded as a defective sector.

Further, in the above embodiment, the address
deleting circuit 6 and the address recording circuit 7
are actuated by the sector mark signal 108 which is
sent out when the drive unit 3 detects the sector mark
20 11. However, when the sector mark 11 is not satis-
factory or when the format recording has not been per-
formed, the foregoing operation for alternative sector
can not be executed. In such a case, a method for
actuating the address deleting circuit 6 or the address
25 recording circuit 7 uses a timer for measuring a rotational
latency corresponding to one sector in place of the
sector mark signal 108. This method will be described
with reference to a block diagram in Fig. 4. In Fig. 4,

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1 when a sector existing precedent to the defective sector
or the alternative sector is detected, the main control
circuit 1 delivers measurement data 115 corresponding to
a rotational latency corresponding to one sector to
5 actuate a timer 15. The timer 15 measures a time
corresponding to the measurement data 115 by counting a
clock signal 116 delivered from an oscillator 16. At the
time point at which the measurement of the rotational
latency corresponding to one sector is finished, the timer
10 15 sends an alternative actuation signal 117 to the
address deleting circuit 6 or the address recording
circuit 7. By such a procedure, the address deleting
circuit 6 or the address recording circuit 7 is actuated
by the alternative actuation signal 117 in place of the
15 sector mark signal 108, and the operation for alternative
sector can be executed.

As described in the foregoing, in the information
recording and reproducing apparatus in accordance with
the present invention, when a defective sector is
20 detected, first, the address of the defective sector is
made impossible to be reproduced by recording a delete
signal on the address area in the defective sector,
then, the address of the defective sector is recorded on
the address area in an alternative sector, and further, the
25 information to be recorded on the defective sector is
recorded within the alternative sector. By such an
operation for alternative sector, the alternative sector
having the same address and data as the defective sector

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- 1 is formed on the same track as the defective sector. Accordingly, at the time of reproduction, the access to the alternative sector becomes possible without a seek operation, and the processing speed is increased.
- 5 Moreover, since the access to the alternative sector is enabled without using a correspondence table between the defective sector and the alternative sector, the structure of the apparatus can be made simple, and its practical effects are great.

10 INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The information recording and reproducing apparatus according to the present invention uses an information recording medium including on the same track a normal sector having an address formatted on an address area within a sector ID field, and an alternative sector in which an address is not yet recorded. In the apparatus, when a defective sector is detected, first, the address of the defective sector is made impossible to be reproduced by recording a delete signal on the address area in the defective sector, then, the address of the defective sector is recorded on the address area in the alternative sector, and further the information to be recorded on the defective sector is recorded within the alternative sector. As a result, the alternative sector having the same address and data as the defective sector is formed on the same track as the defective sector. Accordingly, at the time of reproduction, the seek operation

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- 1 for accessing the alternative sector is not needed, and
the processing speed is increased. Moreover, since the
correspondence table between the defective sector and
the alternative sector, etc., are not used, there is no
need to provide a register and a buffer for administering
5 the correspondence table, and the structure of the
apparatus can be made simple.

CLAIMS

1. An information recording and reproducing apparatus characterized by using information recording means for recording data on a data field in a sector; and a disk type information recording medium including on a same track a normal sector in which an address having error detecting capability is recorded in a format on an address area in a sector ID field, and including an alternative sector in which an address is not yet recorded; said apparatus including address deleting means for recording on the address area a delete signal which disables said address to be reproduced; and address recording means for recording the address on an address area in said alternating sector; wherein said address deleting means, when a defective sector is detected, disables the address of the defective sector to be reproduced by recording the delete signal on the address area in said defective sector; said address recording means records the address of the defective sector on the address area of unused alternative sector located on the same track as the defective sector; and said information recording means forms the alternative sector having the same address and data as the defective sector on the same track as the defective sector by recording information to be recorded on the defective sector, within the alternative sector.
2. An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said address deleting means is actuated by detecting a sector

mark located at the beginning of the defective sector.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said address detecting means is actuated by measuring a rotational latency from a sector located precedent to the defective sector.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said address recording means is actuated by detecting a sector mark located at the beginning of the alternative sector.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said address recording means is actuated by measuring a rotational latency from a sector located precedent to the alternative sector.

FIG. 1

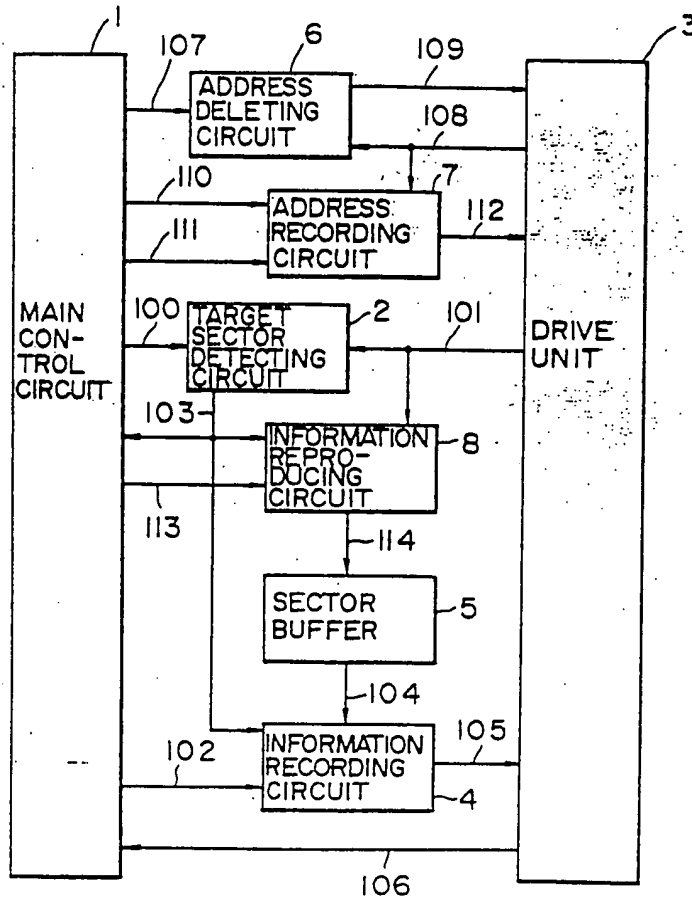


FIG. 2

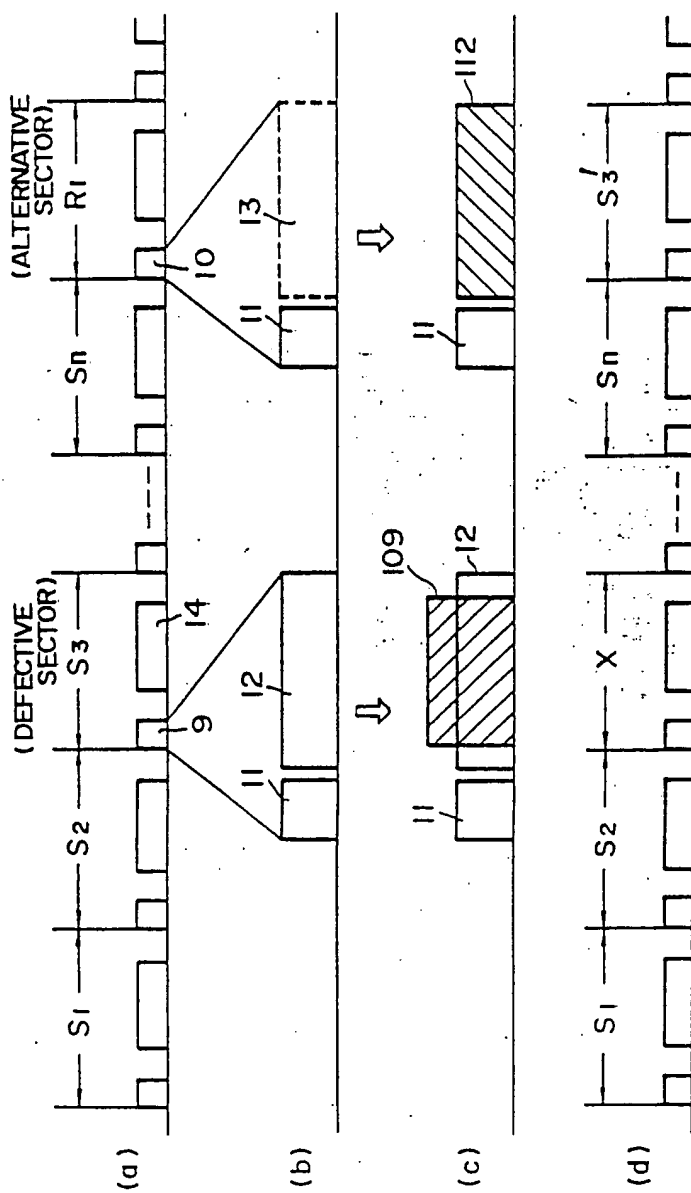


FIG. 3

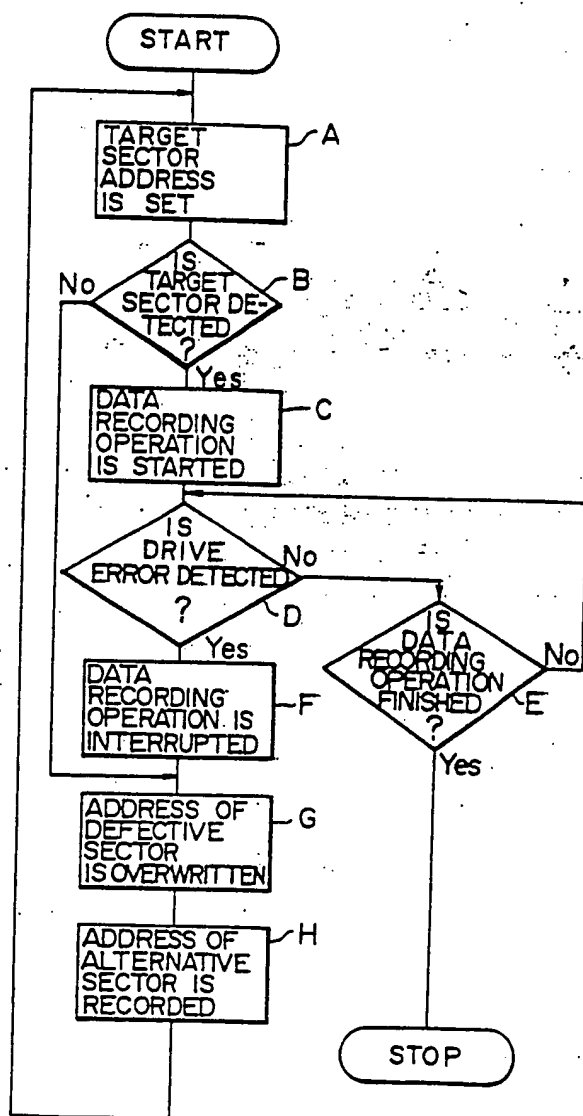


FIG. 4

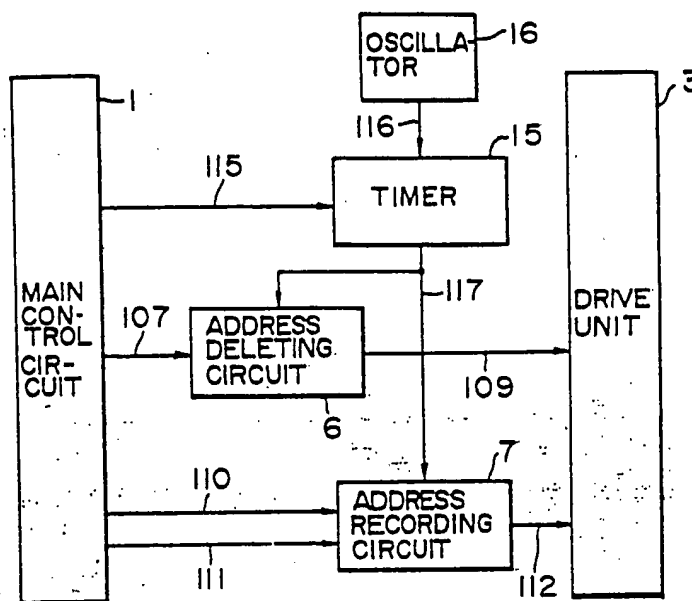
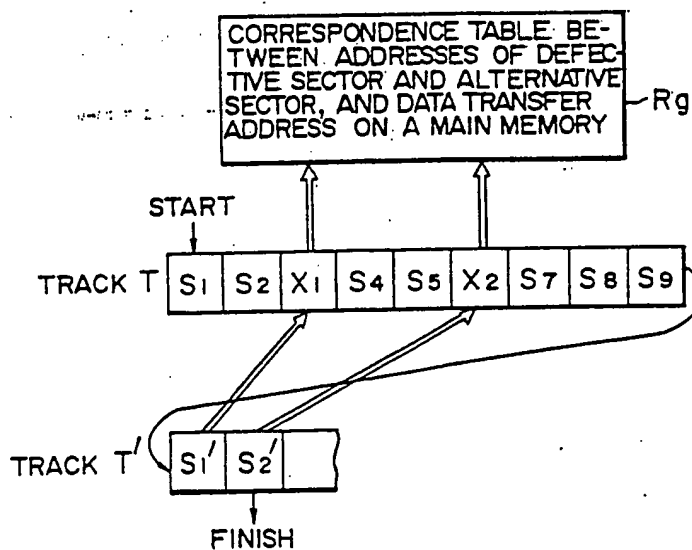


FIG. 5



0243503

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/JP86/00539

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) *		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
Int.Cl ⁴ G11B20/10		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched ¹		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
IPC	G11B7/00, 20/10	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the extent that such Documents are included in the Fields Searched ¹		
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho		1945 - 1985
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho		1945 - 1985
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT **		
Category ³	Citation of Document, ** with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹¹	Relevant to Claim No. ¹¹
Y	JP, A, 58-32236 (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.) 25 February 1958 (25. 02. 58), Page 4, upper column, lines 2 to 20, page 5, lower left column, lines 8 to 19 & US, A, 4545044 & EP, A3, 72704	1-4
Y	Hatsumei Kyokai Kokai Giho 81-1680 (Toshiba Corp.) 20 April 1981 (20. 04. 81)	1-4
Y	JP, A, 60-63772 (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.) 12 April 1985 (12. 04. 85), Page 1, lower left column, line 5 to lower right column, line 1 & DE, A, 3434418	2
Y	JP, A, 56-41515 (NEC Corp.), 18 April 1981 (18. 04. 81) Page 4, upper left column, line 16 to lower left column, line 18 (Family: none)	3, 4
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IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search ²		Date of Mailing of this International Search Report ¹
January 14, 1987 (14. 01. 87)		January 26, 1987 (26. 01. 87)
International Searching Authority ⁴		Signature of Authorized Officer ¹⁰
Japanese Patent Office		